

The State Debt and the Democrats.

It seems to be impossible for the Republicans of the North to do justice to the Democrats of Virginia. In its comments upon the RIDDLEBERGER bill, called out by the passage of that bill through both houses of the General Assembly, the New York Times says that the Democrats of Virginia have never themselves presented a measure for the honest payment of the debt. This statement is utterly destitute of truth. The Democrats passed a bill in 1871 providing for the payment of the principal and interest of the entire public debt of about thirty millions (one third of the forty-five millions having been assigned to West Virginia). Again in 1870 the Democratic Legislature passed the McCULLOUGH bill, which also provided for paying the entire thirty millions (we use round numbers) of Virginia's debt. In interest Virginia has paid, as Governor HOLLIDAY's last message shows, over fourteen millions of dollars since July 1, 1867. And yet all the facts of the case are studiously ignored by our northern brethren—for the New York Times only follows a multitude to do evil—and the Democrats of Virginia, who have for years battled manfully and incessantly in favor of paying the State debt, are actually held up as no better than repudiators. Indeed, the usual way of stating the case adopted by the northern Republican journals is to declare that Riddleberger proposes to pay all that the State is able to pay, whereas the Democrats would never pay any part of the debt!

We say the Democrats paid over fourteen millions of interest on the State debt between July 1, 1867, and October 1, 1881—in fourteen years and three months. The RIDDLEBERGER bill proposes to cut down the debt to about twenty-two millions and pay 3 per cent. upon it. So that in fourteen years and three months the entire amount of interest which will be paid upon the debt, if that bill is carried out, will be about nine millions of dollars—nine four-tenths of the amount paid in the same length of time by the "repudiating Bourbons."

Again: Since the funding bill of 1871 was passed Virginia has paid upon her consols bonds not less than twelve millions of dollars of interest. These twenty millions of dollars of consols have been cut down, by the forcible repudiation of 43 per cent. of their face value, to less than twelve millions, and the interest upon them has been reduced from 6 to 3 per cent., so that in the next ten years there cannot be paid upon them more than three millions six hundred thousand dollars as against twelve millions paid in the last ten years by the repudiating Democrats, or "Bourbons," as the Times styles them!

The Washington Republican outdoes the Times. It says: "The passage of the Riddleberger bill by the Virginia Legislature sets at rest all fears that the Old Dominion will be tainted by repudiation. It provides for paying every dollar of the unpaid principal and interest of the State debt except the one hundred which all parties in the State declare is due from the State of West Virginia."

See the diabolical ingenuity of the attempt to make the northern people believe that it is only West Virginia's third of the debt of the two States which has been repudiated; whereas the fact is that Virginia set aside fifteen millions to West Virginia in 1871, and if the twelve millions just now repudiated are to be turned over to West Virginia, the debt of the latter State is now thirty-six millions of dollars—namely, nine millions of interest accrued upon the fifteen millions turned over to West Virginia ten years ago, making twenty-four millions, and twelve millions repudiated by the RIDDLEBERGER bill, making a total of thirty-six millions of dollars.

The Riddlebergers here at home claim that Virginia owes only what they propose to pay; but how unfounded the claim is, can easily be shown. They say, for example, that the debt of the two States was thirty millions at the time of their division; that one-third of that sum was due by West Virginia, as of that date, and of course only two-thirds, or twenty millions by Virginia. Then they credit Virginia with all the debt since 1862, and find that subtracting this sum from the total of principal of the twenty millions with interest added up to this time, the twenty-two millions of the RIDDLEBERGER bill is all of the debt that remains due by Virginia.

The reader will see that this short method of repudiating Virginia's bonds put out by her own authorities, signed by her own officers, and issued under a law passed by her own Legislature and approved by her own Governor, and decided to be constitutional by her own highest court, leaves the assets of the two States out of the calculation. West Virginia is entitled to credit as of 1862 for at least four millions of dollars out of the thirty then due by the two States; and of course Virginia's share ought to have those four millions added to it. Add twenty years' interest to four millions and its total will be nearly nine millions of dollars. Add these nine millions to the twenty-two millions of the RIDDLEBERGER bill, and the sum total is over thirty millions of dollars—just about the amount which the Democrats have for so many years been endeavoring to get the people of Virginia to pay.

We have thus shown that the Democrats of Virginia have done their duty in this matter of the State debt. We must add that the northern bondholders will hereafter have to protect their own interests. It is not in human nature for any party to submit to such wrongs at the hands of the men for whose interests they so long battled, and then continue the battle. Let the fight go to the courts. The Democrats of Virginia intend to have nothing more to do with it.

The Supreme Court of Tennessee has decided the debt-law unconstitutional. But what of that? If you suppose that the Legislature of Tennessee will respect the decision, just ask the Virginia Legislature. It will tell you that it is for the Legislature to decide all such questions; that the Court usurped authority when it presumed to declare an act of Assembly unconstitutional; that the Legislature of Tennessee ought to remove all of the judges who had a hand in this outrage upon the rights of the Legislature, and put others in their places who will heed the voice of "the people" as expressed through their representatives! Why is this not good doctrine in Tennessee if it is good in Virginia?

Bradstreet reports a decision of the Supreme Court of Ohio to the effect that a real estate agent who assumes to act in aid of both contracting parties in making an exchange of real estate cannot recover from either of the parties, even upon an express

promise, unless it clearly appears that each promisor has full knowledge of the employment by the other, and has assented thereto.

We would be pleased to have the name of the author of the communication signed "An Israelitish Reader."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1882.

President pro tem. WOOD in the chair. No prayer.

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED. By Mr. TAYLOR: Bill to authorize the Protestant Episcopal church to hold in the town of Liberty land in addition to that now held by them, to be used for certain purposes.

By Mr. EDMUNDS: Bill to amend and reenact section 2 of chapter 102 of the Code of 1873, in regard to restraining unaltered horses.

By Mr. BEARY: Bill to amend and reenact section 12 of chapter 136 of the Code of 1873, in relation to appraisers of estates.

By Mr. MARTIN: Bill to amend the second, third, fifth, sixth, seventh, and tenth sections of an act entitled "An Act to incorporate the Norfolk and Portsmouth Terminal Railway, Wharf, and Warehouse Company," approved March 5, 1880.

The Senate passed under a resolution suspending the rules, proceeded to the consideration of unexecuted bills on the calendar.

HOUSE BILLS PASSED. To legalize the sale and conveyance of Oak-Grove church, in the district of Atlantic, in the county of Accomac.

To incorporate the town of Haymarket, in the county of King William.

To amend the charter of the commission of Norfolk and Portsmouth for the preservation of the harbor of Norfolk and Portsmouth.

To incorporate the Norfolk and Gloucester Steamboat Company.

To incorporate the Bank of Buchanan.

To make the Otter river, in the county of Campbell, between certain points, a lawful fence.

To incorporate the Gladeville College, in the county of Wise, and to constitute the territory for three miles around said college a school district of the first class.

To incorporate the East-End Beneficial and Social Society of Richmond.

To amend the charter of Chatham.

Fixing the time for holding the Circuit Court in the sixteenth circuit.

To allow H. N. Price to build a wharf at Smithfield, Isle of Wight county.

To make the Lake to erect a wharf at Franklin City, in Accomac county, on Chincoteague bay, for the purpose of shipping oysters.

Exempting certain school property in Mecklenburg county from taxation.

To amend the Code in relation to the return of writs of *habeas corpus*.

To amend the Code in relation to section 19 of chapter 81 of the Code of 1873, in relation to public health.

To enable the Board of Supervisors of Isle of Wight county, to purchase the bridges across Cypress and Pagan creeks at Smithfield.

To amend and reenact sections 9, 21, and 22 of an act entitled "An Act to incorporate the Mutual Benefit Association of Virginia."

Requiring the Judge of Notary and Amelia counties to submit the question of fence law to the voters of said counties.

To make the lot of the Methodist Episcopal church (South) of the city of Fredericksburg to raise money for improving and repairing church property.

A large number of Senate bills were ordered to engrossment.

ADJOURNED.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The House met at 11 o'clock—Speaker FOWLER in the chair. No prayer.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Leave of absence for five days was granted to Mr. FITZPATRICK, the member from Nelson.

REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES.

A bill to amend and reenact section 1 of chapter 25 of the Criminal Code, respecting the jurisdiction of Justices of the peace in certain cases.

A bill to provide for working the roads and repairing the bridges in the county of Bedford.

A bill to incorporate the town of Mt. Sidney, Augusta county.

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED.

By Mr. VAUGHAN: A bill to empower the trustees of Liberty Hill school-house and church, in Grayson county, to sell and convey certain property.

By Mr. DALTON: A bill for the relief of Lafayette Fowler, of the county of Carroll.

By Mr. FARR: A bill to amend and reenact section 56 of chapter 78 of the Code of 1873, in relation to public free schools.

By Mr. WILKINS: A bill to submit to the voters of Northampton county the question of retail liquor-license or no retail liquor-license.

By Mr. C. TAYLOR: Petition for the relief of Robert M. Custard, of Montgomery county, from a fine.

By Mr. LYONS: Resolution granting the use of the Hall of the House of Delegates to the Virginia Historical Society for Friday, February 24th. Agreed to.

By Mr. SKINNER: Resolution instructing the Finance Committee to inquire into the assessment of lands, &c., in 1880. Referred to the Finance Committee.

LOCAL OPTION.

Mr. NICOL presented a petition signed by over five hundred citizens of Prince William county favorable to local option, which was appropriately referred.

PASSED.

Senate bill No. 195, to amend and reenact sections 5, 6, and 7 of an act for the protection of sheep in the counties of Clarke, Frederick, and Charlotte, approved March 6, 1874, as to the county of Clarke.

DISMISSED.

House bill No. 138, for the relief of J. R. Gillette.

SPECIAL ORDER.

At 1 o'clock House bill No. 189, to amend and reenact section 3 of an act approved March 29, 1877, entitled an act to establish a department of agriculture, mining, and manufacturing for the State, and to add additional sections thereto, came up on its second reading as the special order of the day. Several amendments necessary to perfect the bill, but which do not make any material change in it, were adopted; after which it was ordered to its engrossment.

ADJOURNED.

A Suggestion.

KANAWHA FALLS, W. VA., February 11, 1882.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

PETERSBURG.

ATTENDED MURDER: A PLEASURE INTO A WELL-BREAK OF A LUNATIC—PROGRESS OF THE COALFIELD DISASTER—OFFICIAL VISIT.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

Mary Day, a colored girl, aged about seventeen or eighteen years, attempted to commit suicide this morning on Federal street by jumping into a well. The cause of her act is said to have been disappointed love, her affections having been bestowed upon a young man who did not care for her, and she therefore determined to end her life, and thereby end her earthly sorrows. The well is nearly full of water. The cold plunge somewhat cooled her ardor, and on rising to the surface she was heard, and called for help. Her cries were heard, and she was rescued.

Peter Jones (colored), from one of the adjacent counties, was arrested in a condition of lunacy on Washington street last evening—wild and unable to speak. He had once on the railroad track before the passing cars, with a view of causing his death and was only prevented from carrying out his purpose by force of the by-standers. This morning, having recovered his mind, the prisoner was discharged and sent to his home.

The fund for the relief of the families of the victims of the Coalfield disaster has reached about \$650 to-day. A number of the churches took up collections for the sufferers, and the collection of St. Paul's gave \$75.

A fund also being raised for the relief of the widow and four little children of Mr. James Jennings, who died of small-pox in Prince George county a few days ago, whose condition is a very isolated case.

The river has been running higher than it had previously been during the present freshet, but this morning the water shows a slight decline. Some inconvenience has resulted by the high water, but no damage of consequence has occurred. Many hundreds of people went up to Campbell's bridge yesterday, and the river, in the opinion of the mad river as it rushed and foamed down the falls and over the rocks above, and surged through the narrow space beneath the bridge.

Scarlet-fever has been prevailing to some extent in our city for several months past, and in a mild form. A very bright and interesting little son of Mr. William F. Spotswood, aged between four and five years, died of the disease Saturday night after an illness of only about two days. Among the inflammatory diseases, pneumonia has been the most prevalent and fatal in our community this winter.

Grand Jurors J. Crowder, of the Old-Fellows of Virginia, arrived in the city to-day, and to-night will pay an official visit to Monroe Lodge, No. 8. Mr. Crowder was born and raised in Petersburg, and therefore the more interested in his visit.

ROBIN ADAMS.

PATRICK COUNTY.

PATRICK COURTHOUSE, VA., February 7, 1882.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Our supervisors met to-day to consult as to the best mode of meeting the urgent demands of our people for bread. They had thought that our Legislature would have spared time enough from their greedy and ignominious scramble for office to heed the cries of suffering women and children, and pass a law to the effect that body asking that our supervisors be empowered to make a levy for money to buy grain for this county. In this reasonable expectation they have been disappointed, and the war still goes on, and the noblest Roman of them all must bow to King Caucus. Our country is in a state of famine, and our law-makers, had to anticipate their action and make a small appropriation of \$1,000 to meet the present wants of our people, with the promise of a much more liberal provision when they can act lawfully. From all the information that we can gather, and from the reports of our friends, it is evident that the effects of last summer's drought on this county, and our thoughtful men—charitable citizens—are greatly concerned for the poor and suffering in our midst.

The meeting above alluded to brought together some of our leading agriculturists, and they have been quite a common voice that a continental party in this county for the last fortnight. They had heard of the defection in the camp at the Capitol, and great fears seem to exist that the "people's party" could not be kept together till the offices are all distributed and the State shall have been quite a common voice that a continental party in this county for the last fortnight. They had heard of the defection in the camp at the Capitol, and great fears seem to exist that the "people's party" could not be kept together till the offices are all distributed and the State shall have been quite a common voice that a continental party in this county for the last fortnight.

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ADJOURNED.

A Suggestion.

KANAWHA FALLS, W. VA., February 11, 1882.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

It occurs to me that the efficiency of State boards of health would be very much augmented if they would furnish to the people specific directions for treating epidemic diseases, and also the necessary medicines used in treating such diseases. People that are able to do so would be willing to pay for such advice and medicines, and this fact alone would be a powerful inducement for the State to get physicians to attend patients afflicted with virulent diseases, such as small-pox, for instance, and in consequence many persons die of this disease from lack of attention; and on account of not knowing how to treat themselves or to be treated for it by those who will not nurse them, and not having the medicines, many die that otherwise might recover.

Respectfully, J. C. WATKINS.

"It has more than realized my expectations," says Professor Duncan Campbell, M. D., LL. D., president of Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, member of General Council University of Edinburgh, etc., of the Liebig Company's Coca Bait Tonic.

Invaluable for debility, weak lungs, biliousness, dyspepsia, female complaints, asthma, malaria, liver complaint, and sick headache. Beware of counterfeits.

Powell, and Smith, the officers of the company, and a large number of carpenters and laborers, were dispatched to the scene of the accident. This train had not returned at 4:30 o'clock, and the details of the accident could not be learned. Fitzgerald, the injured man, resided in the county about a mile from this city.—*Alexandria Gazette.*

Tobacco-Sampling.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

We are glad to see "Roanoke" again in your columns, as we believe this mode of discussing the above subject will do, or ought to do, much good towards procuring the passage of a good tobacco law, as that is the great object we should endeavor to accomplish, and for the welfare of the tobacco trade of Virginia, including all interests.

A uniform system of sampling tobacco is unquestionably a necessity demanded by the interests of the planters and one-sided generally. It should be neither "inward" nor "outward," but "inward," impartial, and unobstructed by selfish motives from any quarter, with samplers or inspectors selected by the planters and the owners of the warehouses, to be appointed and commissioned by the Governor, and sustained by the Legislature, and strict requirements well defined, that the great and most important object may be attained—that of fair samples and honest weights. As this is the whole subject in a nutshell, "fair samples and honest weights," and to all other things, the owners of tobacco will see that their rights are protected.

Senate bill No. 56—patron, Mr. Willcox—is the best and most business-like yet offered in the Legislature, and with the amendment of the 4th section of Mr. Hazlewood's bill, it would cover all the requirements of the tobacco trade of the State.

We still insist that samplers should not be allowed to buy or sell tobacco by sample, as it is demoralizing in its effect; and why should samplers be allowed this privilege when it is the object of the law to prevent other persons from doing so? Are samplers purer men than other people? The object of all the penalties spoken of in the various sections is to enforce obedience to the law, and to secure the sampling of all tobacco by authorized inspectors. No law has ever been without them, yet there never was a necessity for the enforcement of any of them except that of the 24th section, when mistakes have been made in delivering wrong tobacco, and the inspectors have been injured without recourse to legal proceedings. We agree with "Roanoke" in all he says of western tobacco, as will be seen in our communication in the Dispatch of January 27th on this subject.

We think the 4th section of Mr. Hazlewood's bill a good one, and the protection in the family of Mr. William A. Jenkins. Her friend will take place from Elizabeth church Tuesday, February 14, at 3 o'clock. Her friends are invited to attend.

Died, in this city, February 13th, at 10 o'clock A. M., Mrs. W. J. WILKINS, wife of J. W. Wilkins, aged thirty-seven years.

Her funeral will take place this (Tuesday) afternoon, February 14th, at 3 o'clock, from her residence, No. 627 North Seventh street. The friends of the family are invited to attend.

Died, at his residence, in Manchester, on yesterday, JESSE WHITE, aged eighty-four years. His funeral will take place on WEDNESDAY MORNING at half-past 10 o'clock from the Episcopal church. His friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Petersburg (Va.) and Paterson (N. J.) papers please copy.

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Died, in Charlotteville, Va., February 12, 1882, CHARLES C. HARRISON, son of George Harrison, aged twenty years. His funeral will take place from the University of Virginia church on Wednesday, February 15, at 11 o'clock. His friends are invited to attend.

Richmond and Lynchburg papers please copy.

EPISCOPAL SERVICES IN THE

UNION SERVICES.—St. Mark's, Monday, Grace, Tuesday; St. James, Wednesday; St. John's, Thursday; St. James, Friday; St. Andrew's, Saturday, beginning 27th February, and held at 5 P. M. Collections for Diocesan missions at all the union services.

DAILY SERVICES.—St. Paul's at 7 A. M., and beginning on the 23d; Grace at 7 A. M., and beginning on Ash-Wednesday.

SPECIAL SERVICES.—St. Mark's, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 7 A. M., beginning the 28th; St. James, Wednesday and Friday at 8 P. M., and at 8 A. M., Monday, Tuesday, and Friday at 8 P. M.; St. John's, Monday, Tuesday, and Friday at 8 P. M.; St. John's, Monday, Tuesday, and Friday at 8 P. M.; St. John's, Monday, Tuesday, and Friday at 8 P. M.

By order of the Vestry, WALTER MOORE, Secretary.

FEBRUARY 14, A. D. 1882.

ATTENTION, POLICY-HOLDERS!

You are requested to meet at Wilkinson's Office, at the corner of Broad and Ninth streets, on TUESDAY the 14th instant, at 12 o'clock P. M.

NOTICE.—THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE RICHMOND AND OHIO RAILWAY COMPANY will be held at the office of the Secretary, at the corner of Broad and Ninth streets, on THURSDAY, March 2d, at 12 o'clock P. M.

By order of the Board, JAMES B. PICKLEN, Vice-President.

AMUSEMENTS.

GRAND SUCCESS! CROCOD HOUSE!

By special request the LUTHERA ASSOCIATION will perform CONCERT AND CHARADES at the Laurel-Street Methodist Episcopal church, corner of Second and Third streets, on TUESDAY NIGHT, February 14th, 1882, for the benefit of the church.

Richmond Theatre. FEBRUARY, 14TH, 15TH, AND 16TH, engagement of the famous COLLIER'S BANNER'S DAUGHTER COMPANY, under the auspices of A. M. Palmer, Union-Square Theatre, New York. Opening: Howard's charming society play.

THE BANKER'S DAUGHTER. ELABORATE SCENERY. RICH AND COSTLY TOILETS.

Prices as usual. Rehearsal opens Saturday at 8 o'clock at Ramon & Moore's and at the box-office of the Theatre. To 10-10

LECTURES.

STAR LECTURE COURSE. AT MOZART HALL. TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 14TH, FRANK STRONG FELLOW. THE CONSPIRACY SCOTT.

Subject: A Trip to Washington—Capture and Release of the President. This lecture has never been delivered before at Richmond, and will be given at Ramon & Moore's. Reserved seats for sale at Ramon & Moore's. To 10-10

venience and pleasure. If the game belongs to the land-owner, he has the right to post his land and to say who shall and who shall not kill it, and has the right to prosecute poachers; if it does not belong to him, and is public property, he has no right to prevent other people from shooting it during the period in which the law permits it to be killed. It may be well enough to make game law, to protect the game on lands and navigable streams (State property) and to prevent non-land-owners from killing game and fish out of season, but this right of property in them had better be settled before passing laws restricting the owners of fish and game from disposing of their own property. It will not be denied by the most ardent advocates of the present game laws that the wild fruits on a farm—the chestnuts, blackberries, whortleberries, &c.—belong to the land-owner, yet any one seems to take the liberty of gathering them, because the owner does not think them of sufficient importance to prevent the trespass. The same is true in regard to the game. Most farmers care but little for the game on their premises. But as soon as laws are passed forbidding the land-owner from trapping game at any season, and only permitting him to shoot at certain prescribed times, then a spirit of opposition, hostility, and resistance to such laws will be aroused. The land-owner will begin to inquire into the rights of property in game, fish, wild fruits, wild game, &c., and will require the enactment of laws to protect him in the enjoyment of these rights as effectually as they now do in the quiet possession of the products of his garden and orchard. So in framing game laws we had better not begin by infringing upon the rights of the land-owner, but by recognizing the rights of those to whom the game belongs.

Non-Land-Owner. Richmond, February 3, 1882.

VIRGINIA POSTAL NEWS.—The following post-offices have been discontinued: Lorraine, Amherst county, mail to Big Island; and Mumford, Elizabeth City county, mail to Hampton.

NOTHING BUT FAVORABLE REPORTS.—Believe S. S. S. is a specific for all blood diseases. It gives universal satisfaction. G. W. Jones & Co., Druggists, Memphis, Price, \$1 and \$1.50 per bottle.

DEATHS.

Died, in this city, yesterday, at 3:15 A. M., Mrs. J. A. JAMES, wife of J. A. James, aged thirty-seven years.

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